

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15457 111804Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 IO-04 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-20

SAB-01 SCCT-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 DRC-01 OMB-01 CIEP-01

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O R 111647Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3361

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UR XF

SUBJECT: BREZHNEV ON ME

DAMASCUS FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

1. SUMMARY. BREZHNEV REMARKS ON ME IN KISHINEV SPEECH (OCTOBER 11) TOOK TOUGH LINE AGAINST DELAYS IN RESUMPTION OF THE MEPC. HE WARNED THAT TO PROLONG PRESENT SITUATION "MEANS TO SIT ON A POWDER KEG WHICH MAY BURST AT ANY MOMENT." SPEECH ALSO APPEARED TO TAKE THE SOVIETS SOMEWHAT FURTHER TOWARD OPEN SUPPORT FOR A PALESTINIAN STATE, THOUGH THEY CONTINUE TO AVOID COMMITMENT ON FORM OR NATURE OF STATE. BREZHNEV'S ENDORSEMENT OF PLO AND PLO LEADERSHIP WAS UNUSUALLY EXPLICIT. END SUMMARY
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 15457 111804Z

2. BREZHNEV GROUPED "THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PLO" TOGETHER WITH SYRIA, EGYPT, AND IRAQ AS THOSE WITH WHOM THE USSR IS DEVELOPING FRIENDLY COOPERATION. HE ALSO USED WHAT STRIKES US A NEW FORMULATION IN SAYING THAT THE RIGHT OF THE ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE TO THEIR "NATIONAL HOME (NATSIONALNIY OCHAG)" MUST BE SATISFIED. THUS, BREZHNEV TREATS THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE IN A "STATE" CONTEXT, BUT STOPS SHORT OF USING THE WORD. HIS CALL FOR THE EARLIEST RESUMPTION OF THE MEPC WITH PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION SEEMS TO IMPLY SOVIET BACKING FOR THEIR PRESENCE WHEN THE MEPC REOPENS.

3. BREZHNEV'S REMARKS CONTAIN BOTH AN IMPLIED CAUTION AND AN IMPLIED CRITICISM FOR THE U.S. HE RECALLED THE JOINT U.S.-SOVIET PROPOSALS APPROVED BY THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL. WE SEE THIS REFERENCE BOTH AS A REMINDER TO THE U.S. OF ITS OBLIGATIONS (E.G., TO USE THE GENEVA FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHED AS A RESULT OF THE U.N. RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO) AND AS A HINT THAT U.S.-SOVIET CONDOMINIUM IS THE BEST WAY TO GET PROGRESS. HIS STATEMENT ABOUT ISRAEL'S "TRADITIONAL FOREIGN PATRONS" IN EFFECT ASSOCIATES THE U.S. WITH ALLEGED ISRAELI EFFORTS TO EVADE THE RESUMPTION OF GENEVA. BREZHNEV DID NOTE THE USEFULNESS OF THE DISENGAGEMENT TALKS (WITHOUT REFERRING TO THE U.S.), BUT EMPHASIZED THEIR FAILURE TO SOLVE THE MAIN ISSUE.

4. BREZHNEV WAS ALSO SOMEWHAT TIGHTER ON ISRAEL THAN RECENT SOVIET LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS HAVE BEEN. FOR EXAMPLE, HE DID NOT REPEAT HIS JUNE 14 ALLUSION (REINFORCED BY GROMYKO AT THE UNGA SEPTEMBER 24) TO A POSSIBLE SOVIET DIPLOMATIC TIE WITH TEL AVIV.

5. THE BREZHNEV SPEECH SEEMS MAINLY INTENDED FOR TWO AUDIENCES. FOR THE ARABS, BEFORE THEIR SUMMIT AND THE UN DEBATE ON PALESTINE, TO REINFORCE SOVIET SUPPORT. AND FOR THE U.S., AS THE KISSINGER VISIT TO THE ME BEGINS AND BEFORE THE VISIT HERE, TO EMPHASIZE THAT SOVIET PATIENCE WITH REGARD TO THE RESUMPTION OF GENEVA IS NOT INEXHAUSTIBLE.

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 15457 111804Z

STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 11 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, PLO, (BREZHNEV)
To: STATE DAMASCUS
Type: TE
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